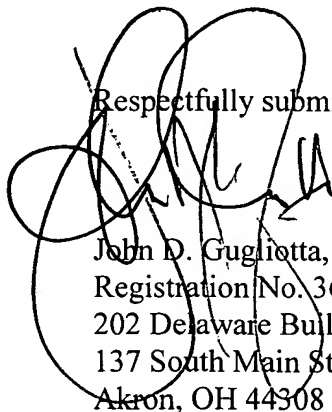


Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/688,735

examiner states that all the claims are classified in Class 83. Applicant suggests that the examiner has failed to make a prima facie case requiring such restriction, or that the species are "unconnected in design, operation, or effect". M.P.E.P. 808.01 The examiner has failed to provide an explanation as to whether the species claimed herein are in separate classifications, hold separate status in the art, or represent a different field of search. M.P.E.P. 808.02.

In fact, all three groups of claims of the application are related in that they are drawn around a positive piece engagement indicator. Group I incorporates this positive piece enngagement indicator integrally within a scriber type marking tool; Groups II and III adapt the positive piece engagement indicator for use with a pin stamper marking tool or scriber type marking tool, respectively. Applicant suggests that each embodiment shown, described, and claimed represent solutions to common motivation, and therefore all incorporate species that have a close relationship to one another in design, operation, and effect. M.P.E.P. 802.01.

Respectfully submitted,



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